COCHIN
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, 1116

Friday, *the* $\frac{\textit{4th April 1941}}{\textit{22nd Meenam 1116}}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (SIR SHANMUKHAM CHETTY, K.C.I.E.) in the Chair.

Messrs. K. R. Viswambharan, K. M. Ibrahim, B. M. Peter, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, Ismail Hajee Essa Sait, H. J. Walmesley and C. J. Luiz were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CHOWWANNUR PANCHAYAT—IMPROVEMENT OF A FOOT-PATH

351. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether one Erath Raman Nayar has deposited Rs. 7—8—0 with the President, Chowwannur Panchayat towards the value of improvements, etc., on the proposed site of a village foot-path under orders of the Director of Panchayats (Order No. 2230, dated 7th Meenam 1115);

(*b*) if so, whether that work has been taken up and finished till now?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes; but the amount ordered to be deposited is Rs. 15.

(*b*) No.

SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER TO LITTORAL TRACTS—PROGRESS IN

352. Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Will Government be pleased to state the progress made so far in connection with the attempt to provide drinking water to the people inhabiting the littoral tracts?

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Committee constituted to investigate the question of water supply in littoral tracts examined several important places in the coastal areas, heard the representations of the people of the localities and came to the conclusion that as a first experiment tube wells might be tried in some selected areas. In consequence tube wells have been installed in some places. The Committee proposes to review the question and submit a final report after the results of those tube wells have been tested.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* May I know, Sir, how many tube wells have been sunk in these areas?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I think there are 12 or 14 wells there. I may also give for the information of this House that I had another consultation with the Secretary to Government and the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer is of opinion that further tube wells may be introduced in these areas. He thinks that on the whole this is the most feasible scheme. Therefore, orders have already been issued to start the work in this direction, and we propose to dig out another 20 or 30 wells within a few months.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* Are the existing wells in good working order?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. But there is this difficulty. The moment we start digging tube wells we should appoint somebody to go about these places in order to see that these wells are kept in good working order. One or two wells were out of order; but necessary repairs have been carried out.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* My information, Sir, is that a majority of these wells were out of order and could not be used at all. During the last meeting, I think, the Minister assured this House that necessary repairs would be carried out as early as possible. May I know whether anything has been done till now?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. Repairs have been carried out.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* But I am told that so far no repairs have been carried out.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The very same person, Mr. Iyengar, was deputed along with the Overseer to go about these places and to see to these repairs. Government are also considering the appointment of a permanent Works Superintendent who could go round and see to these repairs. The

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question is whether this experiment will be successful or not. That is why Government hesitate to spend money.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* My point is even the few tube wells that you have now put up there should be placed in a usable condition. This is a season when the water is most needed there.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Measures have already been taken. The matter will always receive our consideration.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam) :* Has the water in those wells been tested and found fit for drinking purposes?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)* It is not absolutely pure water as the Alwaye water. But it is fairly good water. I have tasted the water myself. The water is not bad. That is the only kind of water you get there.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Cannot the Government now consider the question of giving Alwaye water to those localities?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am not in a position to answer this question.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know whether Government are aware that the problem of water has been solved in Alleppey?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Why not we adopt the same method here also ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* They are more fortunate to have tapped a good source of water there. The same method was tried in Trichur. There we dug some 630 feet, but we could not get good water. The attempt was tried in the Island also. There too it was a failure. Another attempt was made at Azhikkal by the Shenoy family. That also did not prove to be successful.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know the method adopted by them in Alleppey?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The same method of tube well. Fortunately, they got good water. Just as the tuberculosis centre, they were almost about to give up the matter. But they again bored 40 to 50 feet deep, and they were fortunate to succeed in their endeavour.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Is there

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any place in the coastal regions where you can get good water from wells?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The moment you draw a large quantity from these wells the water becomes brackish.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Is that the case with all the places there?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes, in almost all the places.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* Did Government intend upon appointing anybody to go about these places and supervise these wells?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know whether it would not be possible for the Government to appoint an expert or a special officer to go into this question? Now, as it is, what has been done is, a committee who has got many other duties to perform and who could meet only occasionally is appointed. Instead of that I suggest that a special officer to go into this question may be appointed so that some more useful suggestion might be received by the Government. May I know whether Government can find their way to appoint a special officer to go into this question?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I cannot say anything definitely. Your suggestion will receive the due attention and consideration of Government.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* Has not the Government of Travancore appointed a special officer to go into this question, and is it not a fact that their effort proved to be a success after so many years of failure? If something similar is done here, perhaps, we may be able to get good water.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Provided fortunes smile upon us, we may also succeed.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know what is the kind of repairs that are necessary for these tube wells?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* They are worked by means of hand pumps. These pumps go out of order especially when some urchins go and meddle with them.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is there a mechanic to put them right, employed by the Government? What I mean is the supervisor who goes about these places must be a mechanic himself

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so that whenever he notices any defect he should set it right at once.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* This man is a mechanic also.

INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE FOR DEFECTIVES, KUNNAMKULAM—RECOGNITION OF

353. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* With reference to question No. 230 dated 1st February 1941 will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there is any rule that industrial schools in which tailoring is being taught should not be recognised; and if not,

(*b*) is not the Industrial Institute for Defectives, Kunnamkulam, the only school in the State in which tailoring is being taught ;

(*c*) whether any application was received by the Director of Industries and Commerce for recognising this Institute ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes.

TRAINING IN BASKET-MAKING IN INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTES

354. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* With reference to question No. 202 dated 31st January 1941, will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the reason for not giving training in basket-making in any aided Industrial Schools in the State;

(*b*) whether any of the unrecognised schools in which basket-making is being taught applied for recognition or aid in 1940—1941 ;

(*c*) and if so, what is the name of that school;

(*d*) whether recognition and aid were given to it?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) There are no special reasons.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Industrial Institute for Defectives, Kunnamkulam.

(*d*) No.

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